

**EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS STAGING AND LAUNCH AREA TO FACILITATE
CONSTRUCTION OF SEVIERVILLE WATER SYSTEMS (SWS) PROPOSED
RAW WATER INTAKE AND WATER TREATMENT PLANT CONSTRUCTION -
FRENCH BROAD RIVER MILE (FBRM) 27.5L, SEVIER COUNTY, TENNESSEE -
REEVALUATED FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)**

On February 4, 2005, Environmental Policy and Planning (EP&P) completed an adoption of a jointly prepared U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Environmental Assessment (EA) and signed a (FONSI) for Section 26a approval of the proposed SWS intake and water treatment plant at FBRM 27.5 (see attachment). Also on February 4, TVA issued its conditional Section 26a permit. On April 6, Aquarius Marine, Inc., on behalf of SWS (subcontractor to the primary contractor, W. Rogers Company), presented a proposal to TVA and (USACE), in connection with the approved intake installation, to rent an upstream piece of private land for use as a staging and launch area. The need for such an area was only recently determined by SWS to be necessary to implement the project. The staging area is outside the "permit area" (i.e., area of potential effect) assessed in the previously completed EA and a final TVA FONSI. Therefore, a separate evaluation was undertaken to assess the potential environmental impacts from the use of the staging area.

On April 12, Resource Stewardship (Holston-Cherokee-Douglas and Cultural Resources), EP&P and USACE staff met onsite with Paul Wiesner, President, Aquarius Marine, Inc., to inspect the site. The site is located along the left bank of the French Broad River (about Mile 27.9) and just downstream of the Highway 66 bridge (Winfield Dunn Parkway) and north of Two Rivers Boulevard. Roughly 2 acres in size, it has been highly disturbed from past land use, is underlain by underground utilities and has several feet of recently placed fill material, including road construction rubble. A few scattered trees dot the shoreline and a grassed, relatively undisturbed low terrace occurs immediately adjacent to the shoreline (ordinary high water). The site would be used for temporary equipment and material storage as well as a construction lay-down and launch area. It would contain a short access road and crane and loader pad for lifting barge sections into and out of the river as well as removing excess soil and rock (not needed for backfill and bedding) and loading piping and other construction materials (see attached plans). According to Mr. Wiesner, wooden plaids would be used as needed at the river's edge as a platform to help launch and retrieve barges. Only a very minor amount of grading and fill (gravel) would be needed to prepare the lay-down area, access road and launch site. No excavation is proposed on shore. Work barges would be held in place in the river with spuds and dead man anchors, so no digging in the river bottom is needed. Therefore, no new or additional effects on water quality or aquatic biota, including indirect impacts on fish or mussels, are expected.

Because archaeological resources are known to occur in the area, SWS hired Polhemus Archaeological Consulting to inspect the site. Based on his experience and knowledge of resources in the immediate area and because of the past use of this site, Dr. Richard R. Polhemus concluded that there is no likelihood of impacting any archaeological resources by using the site for the purposes and in the manner described (see April 8 letter to Captain Paul Wiesner attached). TVA Cultural Resources staff archaeologists concur in this conclusion. The stipulations under the Memorandum of Agreement that was finalized in January 2005 would continue to remain in effect.

Based on the above analysis of potential affects, as described, along with SWS observance of other mitigation measures included in the EA, we conclude that allowing the requested use of the upstream launching and staging area will not have a significant impact on the quality of the environment. The previous FONSI is still valid. Accordingly, an environmental impact statement is not required.

Original signed by

April 25, 2005

Jon M. Loney, Manager
NEPA Administration
Environmental Policy and Planning
Tennessee Valley Authority

Date Signed

Floating Plan for Sevierville Water Intake Piping Installation

Aquarius Marine intends on using a "floating" approach to the intake pipe installation. We will capitalize on off site launching of barges and yarding of a portion of the incorporated material. We chose to do this offsite to minimize the need for dredging or bank modification.

Aquarius Marine will have three floating platforms for the following operations:

1. Excavation/ Pipe lay barge
2. Blaster support barge
3. Material transfer barge
4. Safety Launch

In areas where the water levels will not support the floating equipment Aquarius Marine will utilize the special conditions of the U.S.A.C.o E. construction permit and unload the equipment to facilitate the completion of the project. (if necessary)

Aquarius Marine intends to capitalize on high water condition over the confluence delta between the Little Pigeon and the French Broad rivers to minimize river bottom impact.

Aquarius Marine intends on storing "shot" rock on the deck of the excavator/pipe lay barge.

Aquarius Marine intends to "shoot" ahead of the lay operation, while excavating, laying pipe and backfilling in combined effort off of the excavation/pipe lay barge.

Aquarius Marine will have spill kits on all of the barges

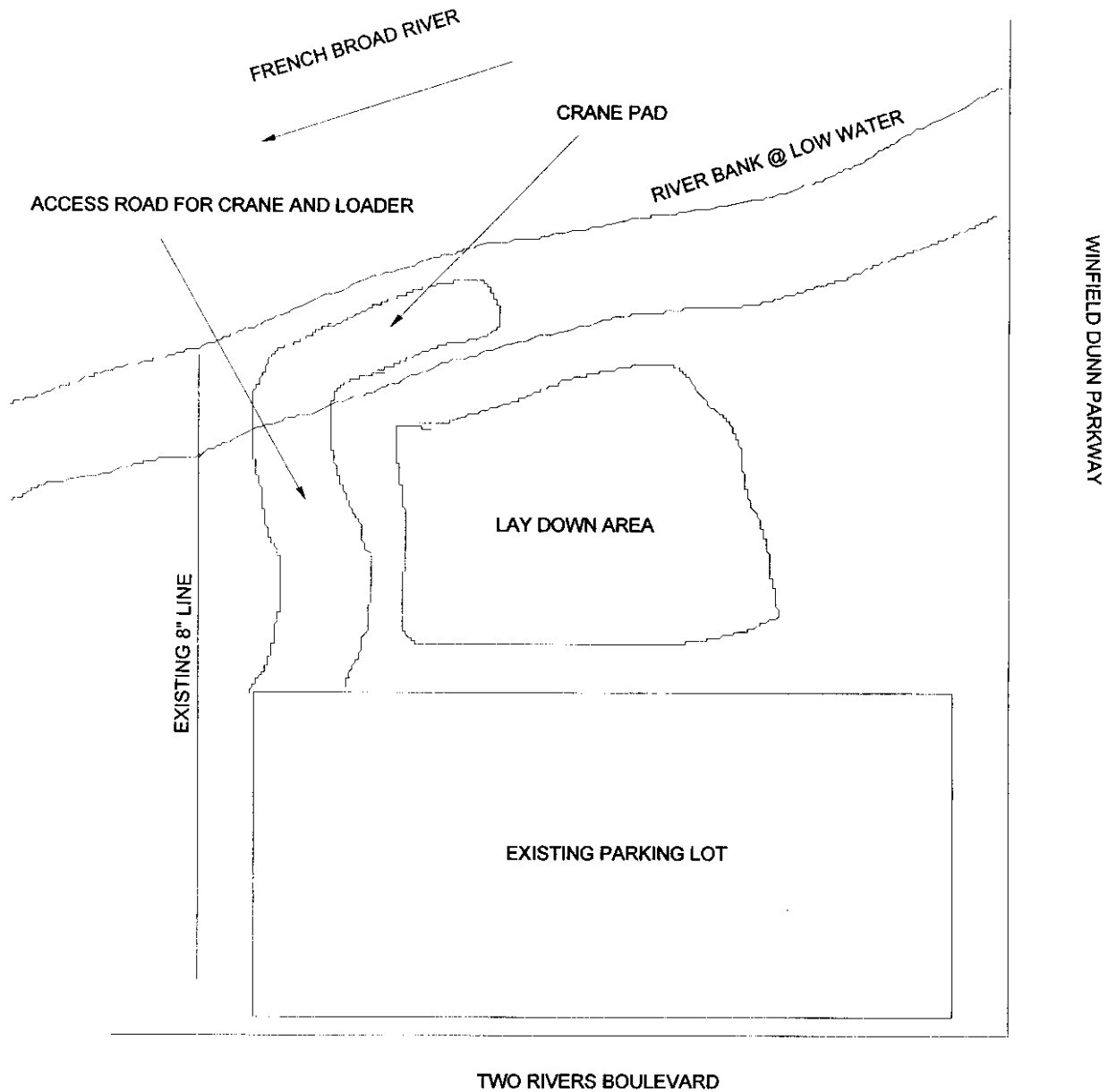
Aquarius Marine will have required safety equipment and navigational lighting on all barges.

Aquarius Marine will moor all barges on station during working periods with spuds and safety anchorage dead man.

Aquarius Marine will moor all barges at launch station during non-working periods with spuds and safety anchorage dead man.

Aquarius Marine will submit a more detailed plan once concept is reviewed at pre-construction meeting.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL



PURPOSE:

TO ESTABLISH RIVER ACCESS
TO MINIMIZE RIVERBANK DISTURBANCE

DATUM: Mean Sea Level

ADJACENT PROPERTY HOLDERS:

- ①
- ②
- ③

Reference Number: _____

SCALE



55.3

11.1 22.2 33.3 44.4 55.5

IN:

AT:

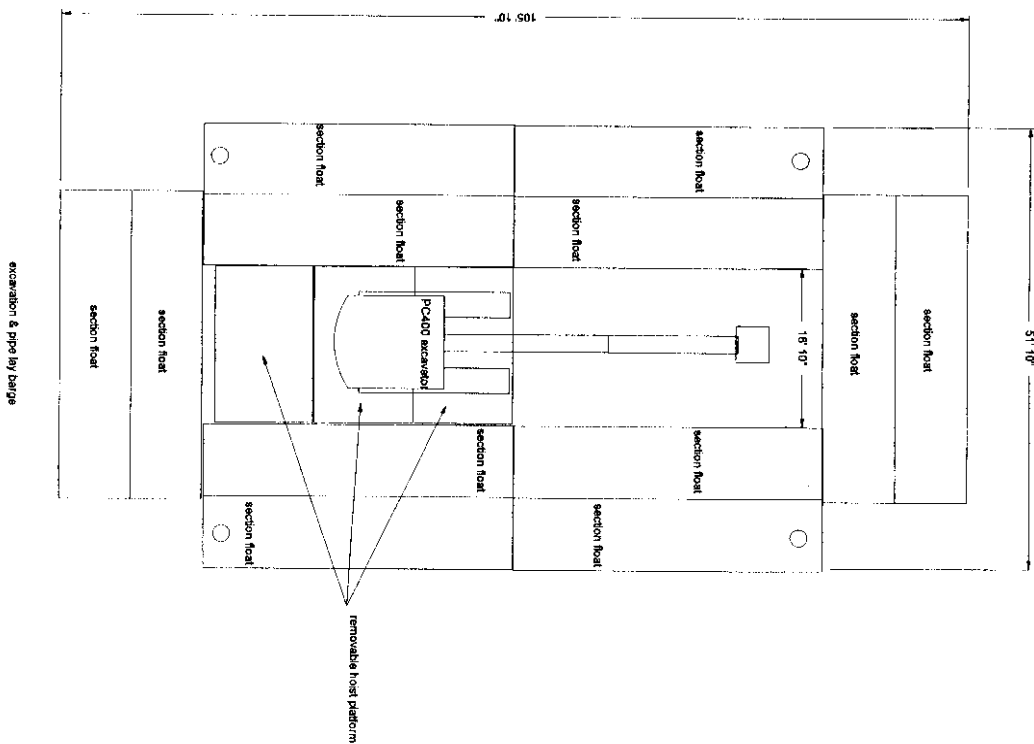
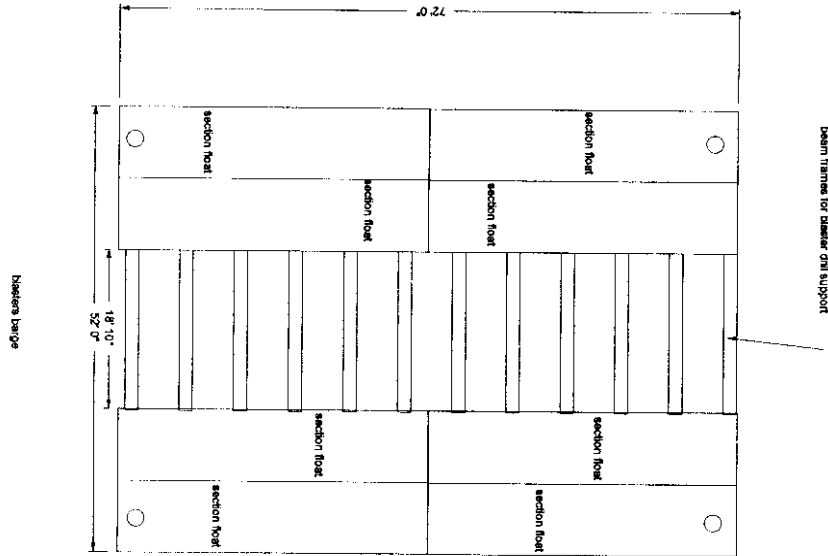
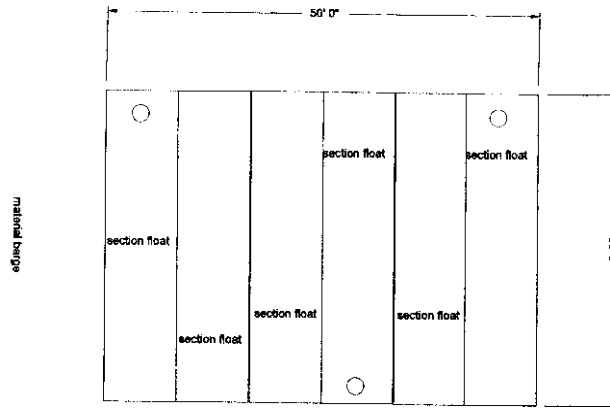
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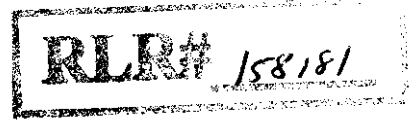
STATE of:

APPLICATION BY:

DATE:

SHEET _____ of _____





**Polhemus Archaeological Consulting
1868 Old Newport Highway
Sevierville, Tennessee 37876
(865) 429-5631**

April 8, 2005

Captn. Paul Wiesner
Aquarius Marine Inc.
800 Elm Street
Ludlow, KY 41016

Dear Mr. Wiesner,

I was pleased to meet with you today and examine the tract on the riverbank north of the Smokey Mountain Knife Works that you are considering for a barge launch and storage facility for construction of the new Sevierville water treatment plant on McCroskey Island. I appreciate Mr. Hernandez's concerns about potential cultural resources on the tract, given its location upstream from the previously identified large Mississippian Period village (40SV9) at the juncture of the French Broad and Little Pigeon rivers.

As I said when we examined the tract, between the original topography of the tract and the filling and utility installations, there is little likelihood of impacting any archaeological resources with your proposed utilization of the tract. This is particularly so as your activities involve no excavation.

I would suggest that, in the event you do need to modify the actual original riverbank that is not covered by recent fill, any earthmoving in this area be monitored by an archaeologist just to be sure that no resources are present.

Please feel free to call or consult as your plans progress.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Richard R. Polhemus".

Richard R. Polhemus, PhD, RPA